

58106

*file
NBH
general*

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

DATE: February 9, 1983

SUBJECT: New Bedford Superfund

FROM: Gerry Sotolongo
EPA Project Officer *GS*

U.S. v. AVX Original
Litigation Document

TO: Interested Citizens

Attached is a summary of the draft Remedial Action Master Plan (RAMP) for New Bedford area hazardous waste sites. The comment period runs until March 14, 1983. Written comments should be addressed to:

Merrill S. Hohman
Director, Waste Management Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
John F. Kennedy Federal Building
Boston, MA 02203

Copies of the complete RAMP are available for examination and at - cost copying at the municipal buildings and public libraries of New Bedford and Fairhaven.

Any questions should be addressed to me at this address, or by phone (617) 223-5775.

RECEIVED

FEB 11 1983

RESPONSE &
COMPLIANCE BRANCH

SUMMARY OF REMEDIAL ACTION MASTER PLAN FOR NEW BEDFORD HARBOR

RANGE OF REMEDIAL ACTION MASTER PLAN

- Acushnet River Estuary, New Bedford Harbor and Buzzards Bay
- New Bedford Municipal Landfill and adjacent wetlands
- Sullivan's Ledge, for solid waste disposal site
- New Bedford sewer system and treatment plant
- Ambient air in New Bedford area
- More than 30 potential or suspected locations of polychlorinated biphenyls contamination in New Bedford, Fairhaven, Dartmouth and Acushnet, including landfills, industrial waste disposal sites, dredge disposal sites and scrap metal yards.

Besides PCBs, the study will extend to enriched levels of heavy metals in marine sediments.

OBJECTIVES OF REMEDIAL ACTION

- Protection of public health and welfare
- Restoration of commercial fishing where feasible
- Accommodation of dredging and removal of barriers to previously planned commercial development of waterfront
- Accommodation of harbor recreation

PRINCIPAL PHASES

- Remedial investigation
- Feasibility Study
- Remedial Design
- Construction
- Post Closure Monitoring

COST AND DURATION OF STUDY

The study and final choice of long term remedial actions will take about two years - July 1983 to August 1985 -- and cost \$2.85 million to \$3,350,000. But decisions on possible dredging of hot spots in

the Acushnet estuary north of the Route I-95 bridge will be made within six months, along with selection of disposal sites and methods, while the long term remedial actions are still being weighed.

REMEDIAL ACTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED

Technical strategies and methods to be considered for each site:

- Removal followed by treatment and/or disposal
- Treatment on site without removal
- Containment on site
- No action

Removal strategies to be studied will include dredge technology (mechanical, hydraulic or pneumatic) use of silt curtains and cofferdams, treatment of dredge spoil (including de-watering) and dredge spoil disposal. Low level PCB spoil may be disposed of in engineered landfill, on shoreline or in the ocean. Higher concentrations will be disposed of in engineered secure landfills or other approved facility. Treatments to be considered include incineration, chemical dechlorination, carbon absorption and recovery, and biodegradation. On-site containment methods to be considered would employ soil sealants, cement-forming materials or polymer films. The no-action alternative would assume natural, long-term self cleaning.

SCREENING ALTERNATIVES

Alternative remedial actions will be screened for cost, health, safety and environmental impacts, engineering feasibility, impacts on esthetics, recreation and economic development, legal, institutional and financial constraints, public acceptance, and compatibility with environmental goals. A numerical ranking system will be devised, along with a risk assessment system.

FAST TRACK ELEMENT

It is anticipated that PCB hot spots in the estuary near Aerovox will be studied for possible dredging and disposal of in a secure upland site on a fast track (July 1983 -- January 1984) without waiting for completion of the feasibility study for all sites. Decision on hot spot dredging and disposal will depend on 1) the quantity and nature of sediments to be removed, 2) satisfactory technology for dredging and safe disposal, and 3) acceptable cost.

INVESTIGATION OF POTENTIAL DISPOSAL SITES - TOTAL PROJECT

The investigation will include:

- Inventory of existing landfills, dredge spoil disposal sites and secure chemical landfills within and outside the immediate area.
- Screening of sites as to size, legal and socio-economic constraints, physical and environmental constraints.
- Search for potential sites still not developed.
- Hydrogeological studies of most promising sites.
- Final selection after public comment and consideration of permit requirements. EPA will make ultimate decision.

(Six months for selection of hot spot dredge spoil disposal sites(s) (January 1984) and two years for complete study (June 1984).

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

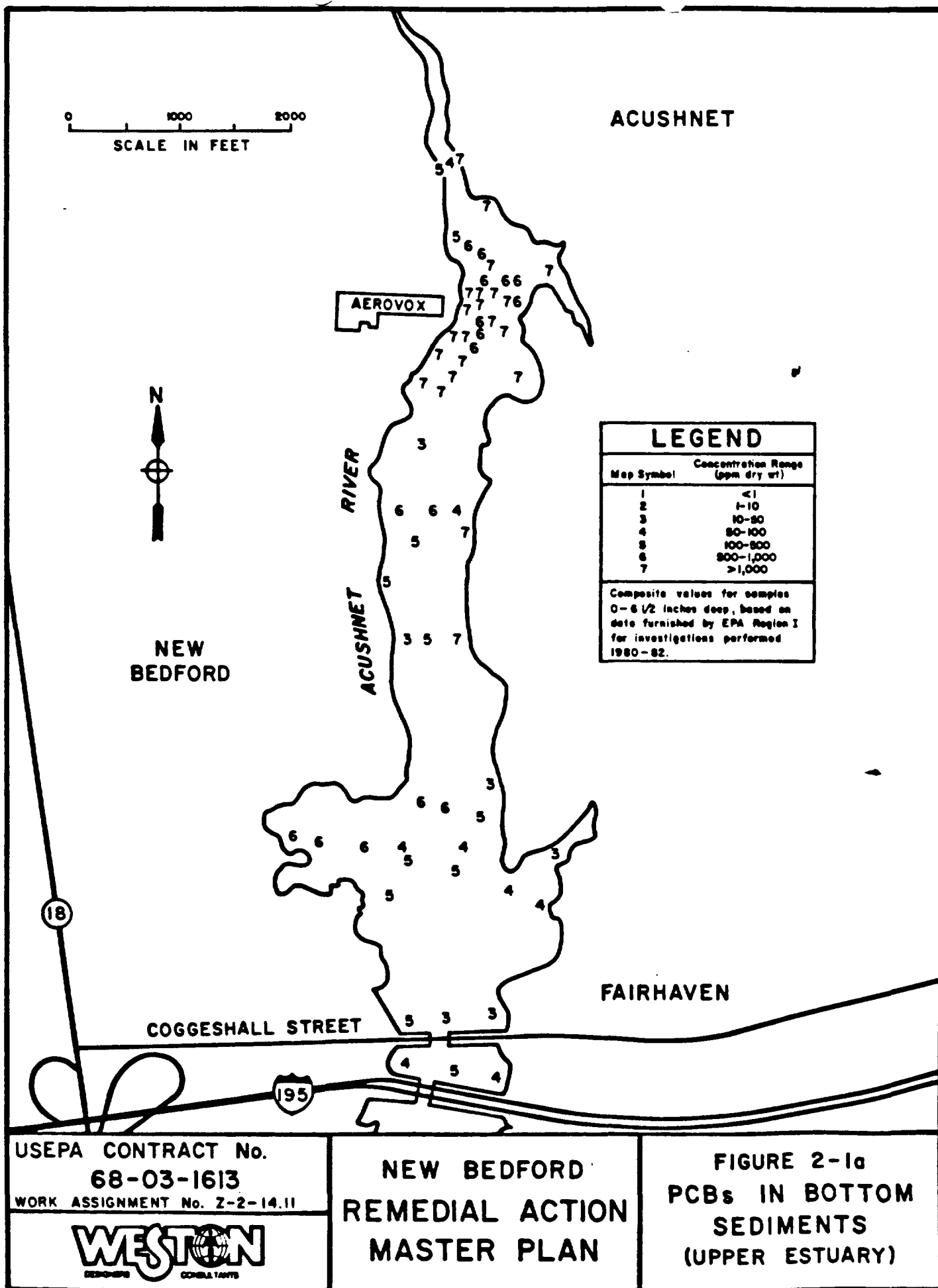
EPA will hold public meetings at critical junctures. Documents will be kept in New Bedford and Fairhaven municipal buildings and public libraries for inspection and at-cost copying by citizens.

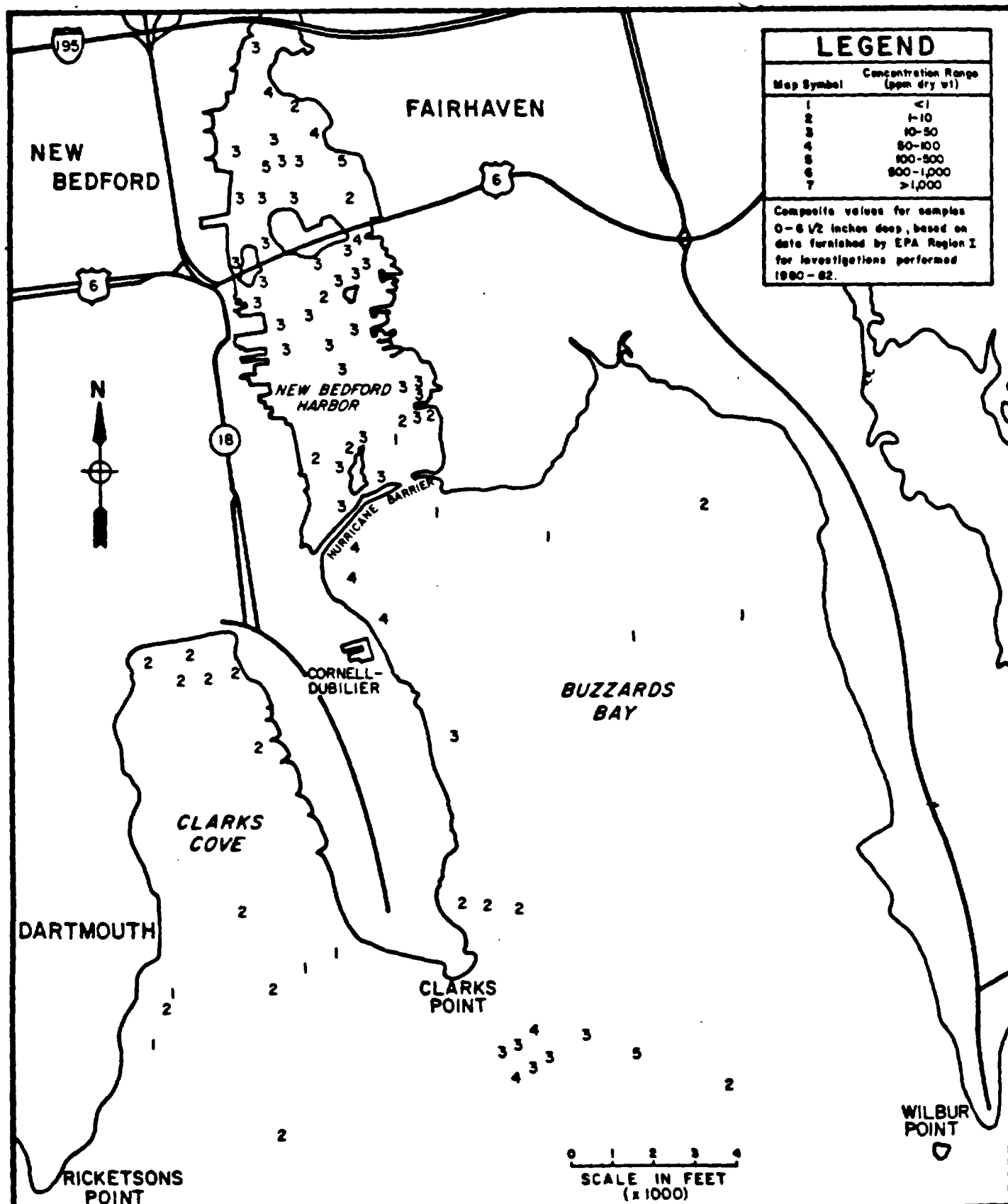
There will be a public hearing and comment period on choice of remedial actions. Formal public hearing on disposal sites may be held separately for fast track element. The Community Relations Plan will also call for: news releases, fact sheets, small group meetings, briefings of local officials (usually at regular meetings of boards or councils open to the public), exhibits. The EPA on-site coordinator will be available for questioning and will personally conduct briefings. Workshops to discuss technical matters in depth will be considered if interest is expressed by citizens and officials.

Attachments: Figures 2-1a showing PCBs in botton sediments
2-1b

Figure 3-1 project schedule

Table 3-1 Estimated Duration and Costs of Remedial Activities



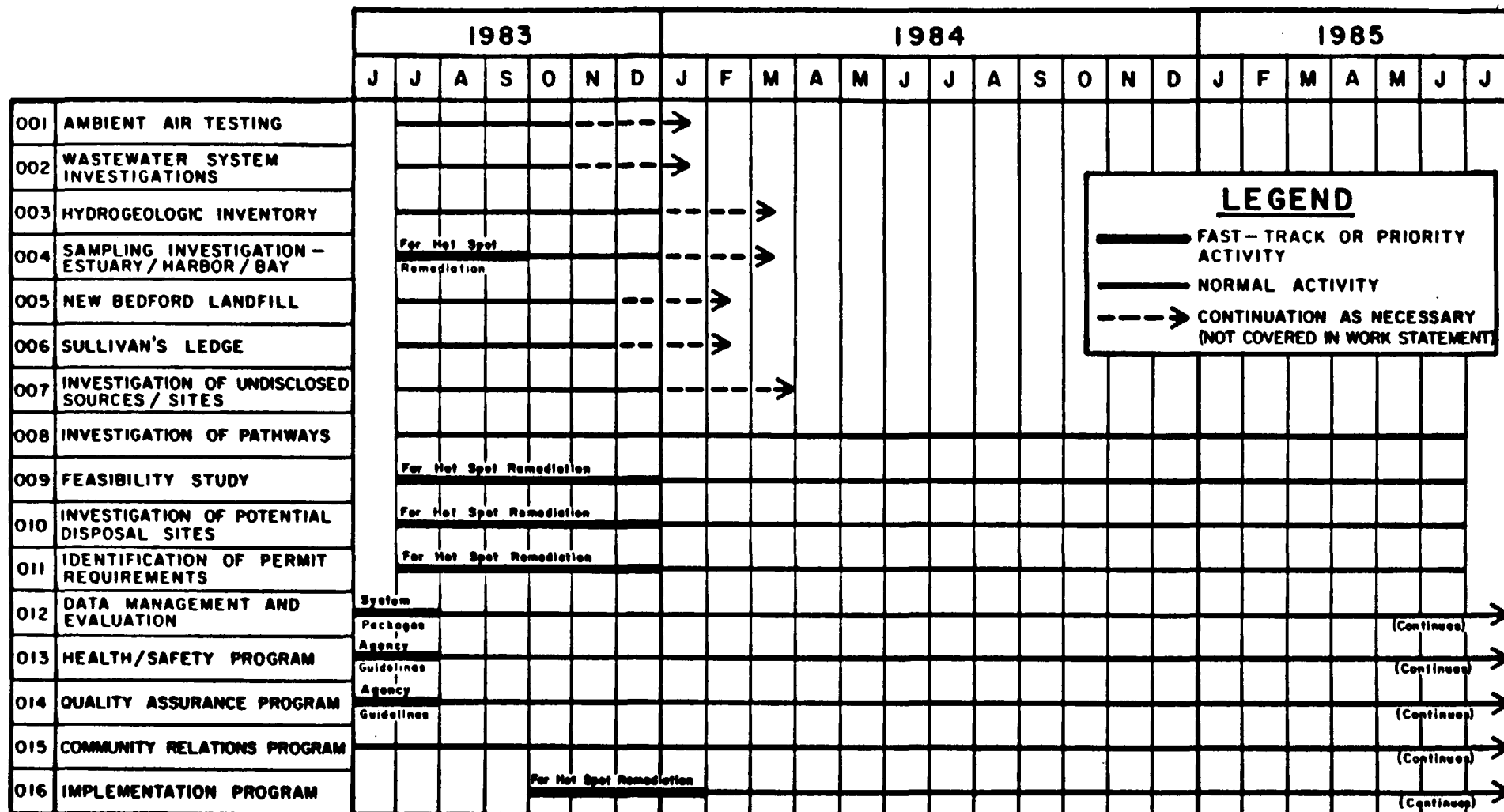


USEPA CONTRACT No.
68-03-1613
WORK ASSIGNMENT No. Z-2-14.11

WESTON
DESIGNERS CONSULTANTS

NEW BEDFORD REMEDIAL ACTION MASTER PLAN

FIGURE 2-1b
PCBs IN BOTTOM
SEDIMENTS
(LOWER ESTUARY)



USEPA CONTRACT No.
68-03-1613
WORK ASSIGNMENT No. Z-2-14.11



NEW BEDFORD REMEDIAL ACTION MASTER PLAN

FIGURE 3-1
PROJECT SCHEDULE

TABLE 3-1

ESTIMATED DURATION AND COSTS
OF REMEDIAL ACTIVITIES

<u>Project Work Statement</u>	<u>Phase (See Note 1)</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Costs</u>
001 - Ambient Air Testing	Total	4 months	\$ 70,000-120,000
002 - Wastewater System Investigations	Total	4 months	30,000- 50,000
003 - Hydrogeologic Inventory of Ground Water Resources	Total	6 months	50,000- 70,000
004 - Sampling Investigation - Estuary/Harbor/Bay	a. Phase I	3 months	95,000-155,000
	b. Phase II	3 months	85,000-145,000
005 - Hydrogeologic Investigation of New Bedford Landfill	Total	5 months	85,000-145,000
006 - Hydrogeologic Investigation of Sullivan's Ledge	Total	5 months	65,000-115,000
007 - Investigation of Undisclosed sources/ Sites	Total	6 months	50,000-85,000
008 - Investigation of Pathways	Total	2 years	750,000-1,250,00
009 - Feasibility Study	a. Fast-track	6 months	60,000- 80,000
	b. Total	2 years	400,000-650,000
010 - Investigation of Potential Disposal Sites	a. Fast-track	6 months	75,000-125,000
	b Total	2 years	
011 - Identification of Permit Requirements	a. Fast-track	6 months	30,000- 40,000
	b. Total	2 years	
012 - Data Management and Evaluation	(see Note 2)	2 years	160,000-270,000